Eletrification of Villages in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

4457. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, so far (i) fully electrified (ii) partially electrified (iii) nominally electrified (with only one or two households covered) and (iv) un-electrified; and

(b) by when all the villages in the respective States are expected to be fully electrified?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The number of un-electrified villages in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh as on 31.03.2004 are as under:—

State	No. of inhabited villages as per 1991 census	Total No. of villages electrified	Balance unelectrified villages
Bihar	38475	19251	19224
Uttar Pradesh	97122	57042	40080

(b) A new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and household Electrification has been launched for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Progamme of providing access to electricity to all Rural Households in five years. The scheme would be implemented through Rural Electification Corporation.

The scheme aims at completing electrification of all un-electrified villages and un-eletrified hamlets in next five years. It covers the entire country.

Shortage of Power in the country

4458. SHRI P.J. PANDA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that our country is reeling under power shortage;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Power Ministry has failed to utilized the budgetary allocation made to them for 2004-05;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action plan of Government to ensure that the allocations made in the power sector are used in full for generation of power?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) There is an overall power shortage in the country. The shortages vary from State-to-State, region-to-region, season-to-season and hour-to-hour. The average energy shortage and peaking shortage in the country during 2004-05 was 7.3% and 11.7% respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 3600.00 crores Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) was provided in the Budget Estimate (BE) of the Ministry of Power for the year 2004-05. Against that the utilization of GBS was Rs. 2931.97 crore. The basic reason for under utilization of the Gross Budgetary Support by Ministry of Power is due to non-approval of new schemes of Ministry of Power as well as of its Public sector Undertakings i.e. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC), POWERGRID, North Eastern Power Corporation (NEEPCO).

(d) Ministry of Power has taken corrective measures to ensure that the budgeted amount earmarked at the BE Stage is effectively utilized during 2005-06. An intensified monitoring mechanism has been put in place as indicated hereunder:—

(i) Weekly review by Secretary (Power) of the status of investment approval of new projects.

(ii) Constant follow-up with Finance Ministry and Planning Commission to expedite the investment approval of new projects.

(iii) Monthly review by Chairman, Central Electricity Authority of all projects.

(iv) Comprehensive quarterly review by Secretary (Power) of status of all ongoing and new projects.

(v) Periodical reviews of capacity addition/Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme/Village Electrification.

(vi) Periodic Inter-ministerial coordination meetings with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; Ministry of Coal; Ministry of Environment & Forests; Ministry of Water Resources for expeditious clearances for the projects.

(vii) Periodic visits to project sites.

(viii) Meeting with electrical manufacturers to remove supply side bottlenecks.

Investment to Improve Transmission System

4459. SHIV V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has a definite plan to improve transmission lines and transmission of power in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Power Finance Corporation has a specific plan to invest nearly Rs. 600 crores for transmission projects in the current fiscal year;

(c) whether the PFC has identified the States where the Rs. 600 crores will be invested;

(d) if so, the criteria adopted by the PFC to select such States where the investment of Rs. 600 crores will be deployed;

(e) to what extent will this investment improve power delivery systems; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Government of Idnia and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) for the year 2005-06, a disbursement target of Rs. 600 crore for transmission has been set.

(c) to (f) PFC sanctions are based on the requirements of various states and appraisal of the schemes by PFC.